



State of South Carolina  
Office of The Lieutenant Governor

André Bauer  
Lieutenant Governor

Office on Aging  
Cornelia Gibbons  
Director

**Media Advisory:**  
December 07, 2005

Contact: Frank Adams  
(803) 734-9912  
[adams@aging.sc.gov](mailto:adams@aging.sc.gov)

or: David Lucas  
(803) 734-9917  
[dlucas@aging.sc.gov](mailto:dlucas@aging.sc.gov)

**Lt. Governor Bauer and Top Medicare Official to Speak  
With Seniors at Prescription Drug Enrollment Event in Chapin**

(Chapin, S.C.) - Lt. Governor André Bauer will join Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Dr. Mark McClellan, Chapin Mayor Stan Shealy and other state and local officials at a meeting with area seniors on Friday morning (**December 9, 2005**) to talk about the new Medicare prescription drug coverage. The event will take place at Generations Assisted Living, 431 East Boundary Street in Chapin, at 10:00 AM. The public is welcome to attend.

This will be Dr. McClellan's second visit to South Carolina to promote awareness of the new prescription drug benefit available from Medicare, and to highlight state and federal efforts directed at helping eligible beneficiaries and their families understand the new benefit and enroll in a plan. McClellan was appointed by President Bush to lead the federal agency responsible for Medicare. The Medicare program provides health insurance coverage to more than 600,000 South Carolinians, many of whom struggle with the cost of prescription medicines.

Following Dr. McClellan's speech, staff and volunteers from the Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging will be on hand to assist seniors with comparing plans and completing applications necessary to enroll for the new coverage. Enrollment for the Medicare prescription drug coverage began on November 15, but staff and volunteers from South Carolina's State and Regional Aging Offices have been active for many months, helping Medicare beneficiaries prepare for the task of choosing between the numerous Medicare-approved prescription drug plans offered by different insurance companies at more than 1,100 enrollment education events statewide.

- ### -